

hearts are soon pierced with melody and filled with sweetness."¹ Elyot applies the knowledge of music not only to the harmony of sounds but also to the studies of poetry and geometry, "he shall commend the perfecte understandinge of musike, declaring howe necessary it is for the better attaynyng the knowledge of a publicke weale: whiche, as I before have said, is made of an ordre of astates and degrees, perfect harmony: which he shall afterwarde more perfectly understande, when he shall happen to rede the boke of Plato and Aristotle, of publicke weales, where-in be written divers examples of musike and geometrys."² Chesterfield would have his son know the elements of music but would not have him a musician, "Few things would mortify me more, than to see you bearing a part in a concert, with a fiddle under your chin, or a pipe in your mouth."³ Concerning the study and acquirement of skill or judgment in painting and sculpture, Castiglione writes, "The Courtier ought also to have a knowledge in painting, since it was honest and profitable, and much set by in those days when men were of a more prowess than they are now,"⁴ and "It is a help to him to judge of the image, both old and new, of vessels, buildings, old coins, cameos, gravings, and such other matters, it maketh him also understand the beauty of lively bodies, and not only in the sweetness of the physiognomy, but in the proportion of all the rest, as well in men as other living creatures."⁵

1. The Courtier, p 75.

2. The Boke Named the Governour, p 28.

3. Chesterfield's Letters to His Son, p 225, Letter CLXXX.

4. The Courtier, p 83.

5. op. cit., p 78.